the screws on, and so Saturday night when the first act of the 'Bachelor of Arts' was over we all refused to continue until we got our salaries. Cas. came back and paid us a portion, and agreed to give us the balance when we got to New York. All this negotiation consumed time, and I think the curtain was down about twenty minutes. The audience got impatient, and of course got on to the fact that there was trouble about money. Finally when the curtain went up Fred. Robinson, who was seated at a table, rang a bell, and I, as the servant, responded. He commenced to gag the part in this way:

"You respond more promptly than you did in the last act, don't you? You think you are soing to get your money, but you don't get a cent." The audience caught on at once, and the gag made a hit.

"I remember once, when I was with an opera company, the manager had skipped to New York, and during a duet I had with the tenor that inglit, instead of using the text he commenced singing to me 'We are all left in the lurch. The manager has jumped away to New York and left us without a cent of money,' and all this in the mellifulous tones of Ralph Rackstraw, while the leader of the orchestra was waving his baton and caling to him over the footlights, 'You devillsh fool, why do you give the thing away; don't you know that it'll break up the company, and we won't be able to play the week out?' This little episode nearly upset the people on the stage, but we pulled through all right. "Another the

"Chartes Hoyt's a-gettin quite a nunch of live stock, so he be. I read in the Boston papers 'bout Hoyt's 'Texas Steer.' That critter must be 'bout five year old now. Then, later, I see somethin' in the papers 'bout Hoyt's 'Black Sheep,' and now I ben a-readin' that he's got 'A Runaway Colt.' What on earth a man wants with 'A Texas' What on earth a man wants with 'A Texas Steer,' 'A Black Sheep' and 'A Runaway Colt' I swow if I kin make out, but they do Colt' I swow if I kin make out, but they do say he makes money out of 'em. Why, up here in New Hampshire you couldn't give 'A Texas Steer' away. No one would give 'A Black Sheep' pastur' room, and if 'twas found out a colt was 'A Runaway' y' couldn't sell it for mor'n what its hide and heofs ud bring in Boston. But Charley Heyt's a shifty little man. He made money, so I'm told, with 'A Rag Bahy' and 'A Tin Hoyt's a shifty little man. He made money, so I'm told, with 'A Rag Baby' and 'A Tin Soldier' and 'A Brass Monkey,' and then he took 'A Trip to Chinatown, and made money on the trip. Why, Bill Jones, when he cum back from Californy, told me ye'd stan' a better chance to make a banana farm pay on top of the Green mountains than to make money out of them heathen Chinees. I yum ef it don't heat my time than to make money out of them heathen Chinees. I vum ef it don't beat my time how he does it, but it's not any more wonderful than how he gets enuff democrat votes to elect him to the New Hampshire legislature in a strong republican district. The only real downright sensible thing I have heard of him havin' is 'A Contented Woman. Now, there's something practical Woman.' Now, there's something practical in that, and ef he can supply the demand for that article he's liable to get richer'n

Lee Harrison is a prolific source of good stories. He has been in his time agent, manager, backer and actor. A few seasons ago he was in the south as manager of "The Wicklow Postman." Business had gone from worse to worse and the company found itself stranded at Fort Smith. pany found itself stranded at Fort Smith. How to get home was the question that was being discussed, when a telegram came to Mr. Harrison. It was prepaid, so of course he accepted it. It was from the Springfield, Mo., manager, who, on the basis of a big advance sale, said, "Will give you \$250 for your night here." Harrison, buayant with visions of wealth, sent a "rush" telegram, collect, accepting rison, buayant with visions of wealth, sent a "rush" telegram, collect, accepting the offer. By combining the total assets of the members of the company, money for the railroad fares was raised and the company proceeded. Arrived at Springfield, everybody climbed into the omnibus except Harrison, who occupied the seat on the box with the driver. Cheered by the prospect of a "certainty," Harrison chatted with the Jehu. "Nice city, Springfield, eh?" "Yep," la-conically assented the Missouri Hank Monk, "Lovely sunset glow, that," said Harrison, pointing to a red reflection in

"Sunset, h-ll," said the driver: "that haint no sunset," "What is it?" queried

the distance

That's the Op'ry House on fire."

was always the "hit" at amateur per-formances and at last the opportunity was offered him to become a full-fledged pro-fessional. A company was organized to go up to Eureka, Humboldt county, to play during fair week. Dave was engaged and made great preparations for his specialty. On the opening night his nervousness and lack of knowledge as to the proper pitch for his voice made his specialty go badly and a faint suggestion of a niss floated across the footlights toward him. He walked down to the "apron" of the stage and yelled at the top of his voice, "I'll give \$25 to the man that hissed if he will stand up and show himself." In an in-stant, Hairlson adds, every man in the house was on his feet to take a chance at

"I always like to go south," said Bert Ruidle, "and that reminds me of a little conversation I heard at the Kimball House in Atlanta last season, where I was with Donnelly and Girard in "The Rainmakers." It was in the ching room, and sitting opposite me were two gentlemen whose accent and appearance stamped them the real southern article. They had been through the bill of fare from blue points to coffee, when the older gentleman asked the waiter if there was anything general. the waiter if there was anything going on at the theater 'wuth seein'.' The darkey looked over at me, and wishing to send my show along, the consideration being two gallery seats presented to him-for se'f an' lady fren' -replied, 'Yes, sah; "De Rainmakers" is at de theater tonight.'

"Rainmakers! exclaimed the colonel in almost the same dialect; Rainmakers, the devil; Ah den't want no mo' rainmaking in They'se two chaps runnin' it, ain't

What's the matter with rainmaking, colonel? 'asked his friend. "'Oh, nuthin',' said the colonel; 'only three years ago a couple of chaps come down in Alabama where I live and exhibdown in Alabama where I live and exhibited a rainmaking machine and claimed that they could produce rain. Of co'se Ah was natchilly int'rested, as mah craps, owin' to a scarcisity of rain, wuz in a mos' deplo'able condition. Ah say I interested mase'f natchilly and hepped them chaps to the extent of mah inflooence, which, as yo' know, is pootty to'able consid'able. Of co'se, they demanded some money in advance, natchilly'

"Did they take in any?" dublously asked

vance, natchilly'
"'Did they take in any?' dublously asked 'Ah should say they did, suh,' said the colonel; 'they took in forty-fo' dollahs, an' every farmer in the country."
"'Didn't they make no rain?" again

"'Didn't they asked his frierd. asked his frierd.

"'Rain, the devil! They made a big hole in front of the cote house an' it ain't been filled up yit. They jus' added a few mo' names to that list of blamed fools, of which Ah don't mine tellin' yo, Ah was the capt'in; fuh, as I was natchilly interested. Ah just hepped them rainmakers to huve make just hepped them rainmakers to bunco mah frens outer forty-fo' dollahs. Ah was in a mos' em'ba'ssing position. But the mos' fun of it all wuz that two days aftah it set in an' rained the biggest rain Ah ever seen in that part o' the country. All them branches that run into the rivah just backed up an' overflowed an' washed all

our craps outen the groun'.'
"So, what with a insufficiency and an

"So, what with a insufficiency and an overproduction of watah, the lower section of Alabama wuz dam neah ruined. No, sah; no rainmaking in mine." "But, said the waiter, "these two gemmen at the theater only make fun." "That's just what they done to me, said the colonel; 'made fun. Why, the boys down mah way call me Noah yit. An', say, if it had rained a day longer I'd a flooded the state."

the state.'
"Here these worthles left the dining room and I lost the rest of their troubles."

"No one knows how much quiet fun is indulged in by actors and singers on the stage when they feel so disposed," said an old man who had played many parts, and had also had some experience in comic opera. "I remember," he continued, "an incident right in this city. Many years ago Casauran brought an excellent company here, headed by Frederick Robinson, to do a summer season of comedy. The patronage was slight, and as Casauran didn't have any money the prospect of no salaries stared us in the face. We believed that Cas. could get the money if we put

be able to play the week out? This little episode nearly upset the people on the stage, but we pulled through all right.

"Another time, when I was with a higher class opera company, for you must know that I had a very good baritone voice, and have been with some good organizations, we were playing the 'Cavalleria Rusticana' and we had in the early part of the season been doing good business, but we had struck a streak of bad weather, and then there had been some bad booking, and we had got into pretty tight lines. There was a rumor of difficulty between the management and the prima donna, and, in fact, there was quite a lively scrap, which, while a rumor of difficulty between the management and the prima donna, and, in fact,
there was quite a lively scrap, which, while
it amused those who were not in it, did
not conduce to harmony. On the night after the scrap, when Lola comes out of the
church and is repulsed by Alfio, she says,
in astonishment, 'What does all this
mean?' and Alfio, instead of replying as he
should, said, 'I don't think we'll get any
salary this week.' Poor Lola, it nearly
broke her up, for she was a young girl, who
was thoroughly devoted to her art and had
made a big success in the part, so much
so that the favorable notices she received
in the newspapers was one cause of the
prima donna's anger.

"I could mention many other instances,
but these are enough for the present."

National Theater.—The comedy event for

National Theater.—The comedy event for eral weeks, and even months, to come, will be the appearance at the National Theater, for one week, beginning Monday evening, of Hoyt's latest, and, from what has been said, greatest comedy success, entitled. of Hoyt's latest, and, from what has been said, greatest comedy success, entitled "A Contented Woman." The piece, like its predecessors, which have achieved a farreaching popularity, is a satire, and in this condition. case woman suffrage and the boodling characteristics of certain elements in the political organizations are made the main themes. "A Contented Woman" has not been fashioned after the usual style of the author, as it has much less of the broad farcical tendencies of the other Hoyt plays, It is more on the order of "A Texas Steer," and comes near that class of entertainment styled straight comedy. There are, of course, some excellent specialty features, but they are introduced legitimately, and in no way interfere with the action of the play proper. The leading role will be a typed. in no way interfere with the action of the play proper. The leading role will be played by Mrs. Caroline Miskel Hoyt, who is not only one of the handsomest women on the stage at the present time, but who also is an actress of unusual ability. Mr. Hoyt has provided an excellent supporting company, which includes W. H. Currie, Frank Lane, Will H. Bray, Sallie Scales, Rose Snyder, Miss Amy Ames, Max Freeman, Miss Madeliene Bouton and others. The production entails the use of large quantities of special scenery, which was painted by Voegtlin, and has an abundance of spirited and catchy music by Stahl.

Lafavette Squace Opera House—"In

Lafayette Square Opera House.—"In Gay New York," which will be the Christ-mas week attraction at the Lafayette Square Opera House, the engagement be-Harrison fell off the omnibus.

David Warfield and Harrison are both inveterate story tellers, and each one makes the other the hero of numerous good anecdotes. At last accounts Harrison was one ahead. He tells an incident that befell Warfield when that comedian made his first appearance in the garb of an actor. Warfield was formerly an usher in the Bush Street Theater in San Francisco and developed such success as a mimic that his friends urged him to go on the stage. He was always the "hit" at amateur perthe best offerings of comedy, farce, opera, ballet, spectacle and vaudeville. Klaw and Erlanger are sponsors for the production, and promise that the piece will be given here with all the strength of cast and completeness of equipment that characterized its long run at the New York Casine. tized its long run at the New York Casino.

The book is by Hugh Morton, and the music by Gustave Kerker. The scenes are in Huckleberry Center, Maine, New York city and Coney Island. The story is in brief the chonicles of a modern sentimental tourney. It perrates the adventures of Johr ny Brown, a newly wedded rustic, who with his bride Sally, and a thousand dollars, visits gay Gotham on a honeymoon trip For their diversion, burlesques on popular plays are given; lavishly costumed ballets are shown in strikingly beautiful dense averagements. dance arrangements; notable personages are introduced in caricature and the en-tire gamut of a big city's midsummer madness and gayety is run. The presentation enlists the services of quite seventy people, and the long list reveals the presence of numerous popular players. Walter Jones, Lucy Daly, David Warfield, Lee Harrison, Jeanette Bageard, La Liska, Gertrude Zeila, Josephine Stanton, Wm. E. Richie, Arthur B. Gibson and Gilbert Gregory have

Columbia Theater.—A royal welcome will undoubtedly be extended Neil Burgess by the laugh-loving public of Washington next week at the Columbia, when he opens Mon-day wight in his latest laugh-producing success by Miss Alice E. Ives, entitled "Odd Miss Podd." His name is endeared in the memory of theater-goers through his celeimpersonation of that bustling. warm-hearted spinster, Aunt Abby, in "The County Fair." Penelope Podd, in which he will be seen next week, follows closely upon the same line and affords him every opportunity wherein he can more than duplicate the laughing propensities indulged in by his audiences. In it he portrays one of those old fashioned and delightful home bedies whose good intentionness allowants. of those old fashioned and delightful home bodies whose good intentions are always to do the right thing for everybody through a moral sense of duty, which results in creat-ing trouble for them instead, thus complicating matters in a humorous manner and producing continuous roars of laughter. Even his every appearance on the stage is said to be a signal for the outbursts of merriment ere he has uttered a word. Throughout the action of the play he has introduced several startling mechanical trivial out the action of the play he has introduced several startling mechanical inventions patented by himself, prominent among which is a road race between a bicycle and running horses, which is said to eclipse his famous jockey race in "The County Fair." Among those engaged in the production we note such well-known artists of metropolitan reputation as Bartley McCulium. Chas. R. Gilbert, Frederick Perry, Edward Holland, Forrest Seabury, Harry Wickett, Miss Genevieve Reynolds, Miss Hannah Thompson, Miss Lucille Warren, Miss May Taylor, Miss Helen Fargo, Miss Jennie Williams, and others. Commencing with Thursday afternoon, matinees will be of daily occurrence, and wiil include Thursday, Christmas day (Friday) and Saturday.

Grand Opera House.—One would hardly

day, Christmas day (Friday) and Saturday.

Grand Opera House.—One would hardly believe, after witnessing the performance of "The Great Northwest," which comes to the Grand Opera House next week, that Miss Jessie Bonestelle, the leading lady, was reared in a convent. Such, however, is the case. Mr. Will R. Wilson, one of the authors of "The Great Northwest," went to Dakota to secure material for his new play, and after an absence of several months returned to his home at Montreal, Canada, where Miss Bonestelle happened to be in a convent. The ladies of a society decided to hold a fair, and it was while Miss Bonestelle was soliciting donations for the felt the was soliciting donations. decided to hold a fair, and it was while Miss Bonestelle was soliciting donations for the fair that she first met Mr. Wilson and fell in love with him at first sight. The fact of her being in a convent placed the two lovers in a predicament, that lovers find themselves every day, unable to see each other only a moment at a time. A correspondence was opened up, carried on with the aid of secret messengers, and finally the lovers decided to elope. At the appointed time Mr. Wilson was under Miss Bonestelle's window, but in his excitement had forgotten to procure a ladder. It was while thinking of a plan to get his sweetheart down that the arms of an old windmill, which stood very near her window, attracted Mr. Wilson's attention, and no

sooner seen than a plan was decided upon.

Mr. Wilson instructed Miss Benestelle to catch one of the arms of the windmill and swing down, when he would catch and stop her. A moment later found the lovers together on the ground in each other's embrace. It was this escapade that furnished Mr. Wilson material for one of the strongest features of his new play and which he immediately introduced in the fourth act of "The Great Northwest." To get a lady to play such a part and to attempt such a daring feat was his next task, and, after exhausting every endeavor, finally concluded that his first love, the originator of the effect, should play the part, and today finds Miss Bonestelle in the leading role of "The Great Northwest," making her swing for life nightly.

Academy of Music.—Eugenie Blair begins her Christmas engagement at the Academy of Music next Monday night. She appears at the regular matinees Wednesday and Saturday, and also gives a special popular-priced matinee on Christmas day. As has been before stated, Eugenie Blair will present her own creation of the heroine in Mrs. Wood's beautiful story of "East Lynne," and she is in every way endowed for the exacting role of Lady Isabel. Miss Blair's experience and ability, together with her beauty and grace, qualify her thoroughly, and she has the power to portray the emotions and almost tragic situations of the part. The experience of this lady has caused her to select a competent and evenly balanced company to assist her. She will have the aid of Edwin Ferry, a talented and accomplished actor: Wm. Bramwell, another clever artist; Miss Edna Downing, sweet and womanly, and Mrs. Ella Wren, Eugenie Blair's mother, will appear for this coming week only. Miss Lee, Miss Wells and Mr. Verhoff are all clever, and in every way suitable for the presentation of "East Lynne." Academy of Music.-Eugenie Blair begins

The Gay Parisians.—The patrons of the Lafayette Square Opera House will have The Gay Parisians.—The patrons of the Lafayette Square Opera House will have an opportunity to start the year aright; that is, with a hearty laugh. The attraction for the week of December 28 will be that funny farce from the French, "The Gay Parisians." As will be remembered by those who saw it last year, this comedy is a whirlwind of fun. There is not an instant when the action or the dialogue lags, and the audience is kept in a fever of iaughter and expectancy as to what amusing complication will next arise, and how the tangle will ever be solved in a satisfactory manner. Sadie Martinot was especially engaged this season for the role of the flirtatious and charming Mrs. Paillard. Otherwise Charles Frohman sends the same splendid company seen here last season, including W. J. Ferguson, the great character actor; James O. Barrows, Chas. B. Wells, Louis Hendricks, W. R. Shirley, Tully Marshall, Frank A. Connor, Percy S. Sharpe, Mrs. E. J. Phillips, Margaret Gordon, Vergie Graves, Marion Fairfax, Geraldine de Robine, Vivia Ogden and Perle Dudley. Dudley.

toroon" Company will hold the boards at Kernan's Lyceum Theater next week. The company has been materially strengthened since last season's run, which even then eclipsed anything of its kind, and today offers a splendid attraction for an evenium's amusement. The costuming of the ing's amusement. The costuming of the company is especially rich and artistic and at times so in accordance with eastern countries that one can almost imagine he is witnessing some far-away tropical scene. Especially is this true of the Spanish ballet or "Strollers of Old Madrid." The scene. Especially is this true of the Spanish ballet or "Strollers of Old Madrid." The program opens with an original absurdity, which abounds in mirth and merriment and introduces the entire company. The "Four Little Tea Venders" is something new and absurdly funny. A pretty ballet is introduced in the ensemble gavotte called "The Milkmaid's Flirtation." The Mallory Brothers have a good act and musical turn; Shorty May and Edward Furber have a clever dancing and acrobatic sketch: Tom Brown is a good character impersonator, and recites one of Kelly's famous poems, "The Drunkard's Dream," supplementing it with lightning changes in make-up. Madah Hyer, a soprano, proves by the soft, sweet clearness of her voice that she well deserves the name of "California Songbird." This interesting program concludes with "Thirty Minutes Around the Operas," which is cast to the full strength of the company, and includes the "Bronze Melba," Madam Flower, and the phenomenal baritone, Fred J. Piper. The scene from "Pinafore" is popular with every audience, and in the airs from "Cavalleria Rusticana," "Il Trovatore" and "Robin Hood" the singing is excellent and shows careful training. There will be matinees daily except Monday.

Sousa's Tenth Tour.—Sousa, the peerless conductor, and his matchless men will make their initial appearances for 1807 at the Lafayette Square Opera House January 3. Sousa's visits to Washington mean the

make their initial appearances for 1897 at the Lafayette Square Opera House January 3. Sousa's visits to Washington mean the assembling of the musical and social forces of the capital. The giorious "bon voyage" ex-tended to their fellow member by the Gridtended to their fellow member by the Grid-iron Club last January at the opening of his transcontinental tour at this house of the pleasantest memories of is one of the pleasantest memories of Sousa's career. The "march king" and his superb organization will inaugurate an unprecedented tour of 21,000 miles, extending from ocean to ocean and gulf to gulf, embracing the entire United States, Canada and the maritime provinces. bracing the entire United States, Canada and the maritime provinces, on December 27, at Carnegie Hall. New York, and their concerts here will be a part of the series. The announcement of his coming carries assurance of rare pleasure. Sousa's music, Sousa's marches, Sousa's band, and, above all, Sousa himself, are a grand combination. The organization is playing in superb form, and Sousa himself, after a triumphal European tour, is in magnificent fettle. The soloists will be Elizabeth Northrop, soprano; Martina Johnstone, violinist; Arthur Pryor, trombone, and Franz Hell, horn virtuoso.

Miss Ellen Vockey of this city is making quite a success in New York city. She will give an entertainment next Monday evening for the benefit of the Evening World's Christmas tree fund, at which she will give the potion scene from "Romeo and Juliet," the curse scene from "Leah" and several morelogues. She will probably repeat this program in this city later in the season.

Miss Lucy Morrow, who is playing the Miss Lucy Morrow, who is playing the leading role with Mr. Herne in "Shore Acres," is one of the few women who are on the stage for the love of the profession. She is from Birmingham, Ala., where her father is a wealthy and influential citizen, and where she had every social advantage. She believed she had dramatic talent, however, and induced her parents to allow here She believed she had dramatic talent, now-ever, and induced her parents to allow her to go to New York and study. The part she has in "Shore Acres" is understood to he her first professional venture, but she be her first professional venture, but she plays it with an intelligence and effect that justifies her choice of life work. Miss Morrow besides possessing talent is a beautiful and attractive young woman, and will undoubtedly succeed.

The Choral Society.-There is always one feature connected with Christmas joys that is especially enjoyable to all lovers of is especially enjoyable to all lovers of music. This is the annual concert of the Cheral Society when the oratorio of the "Messiah" is given. There is no oratorio that has ever been written that has so much affinity with a particular season of the year as this work, and the Choral Society should be given the heartisetics. the year as this work, and the Choral So-clety should be given the heartiest kind of encouragement in its effort to present this beautiful composition. The soloists who have been engaged for the presentation of the oratorio are capable of interpreting the work in the best manner possible. Mr. Ericsson Bushnell, the greatest oratorio basso that the musical world has ever heard, will sing that part. Mr. Bushnell has been heard here before, and needs no introduction as a soloist of the very high-est rank. Miss Grace Hall of Baltimore will be the contraito; Mrs. Nellie Wilson Shir-Cliff, soprano, and Mr. W. D. Mac-Farland, tenor. Miss Hall possesses a well-trained voice, and is capable of carrying rained voice, and is capable of carrying the contraito part with intelligence and skill. The other two soloists are well known to Washington. The "Messiah" will be given two nights, the 29th and 30th instants, at the Congregational Church, the two concerts being made necessary by the small size of the auditorium engaged.

Princeton Glee Club.—The Princeton Glee, Banjo and Mandolin Clubs give their annual concert in this city at National Rifles' Armory next Tucsday evening. The Princeton boys have always been noted for the excellence of their musical organizations, and this year it may be said that the clubs are unsurpassed by any college organization. The program to be given includes a number of the most popular selections that are counted as good music, and the training which the members of the clubs have gone through has demonstrated their entire fitness to present the very best kind of work that has been written for their instruments. Among the members of the giee club are some exceptionally fine voices, even for college boys, and the soloists are all that could be desired. It is expected, of ccurse, that all Princeton graduates in this city will give the clubs a hearty reception, but the concert, as a mere musical event, deserves the patronage of all.

The Bourchlers.—Mr. Arthur Bourchler, Princeton Glee Club.-The Princeton Glee, rhe Bourchiers.—Mr. Arthur Bourchier, Miss Violet Vanbrugh and their London Royalty Theater Company are announced to appear at the Columbia Theater, beginning Monday, January 4, in "one of their greatest successes," "The Chill Widow," which had a phenomenal run of 300 nights at the London Royalty Theater. The gen-

eral comment of the New York papers is that it has been many a long day since England has sent us such a fine company, which began its American tour in New York a few weeks sinte, to audiences that filled every seat, night after night. It was with genuine regret to New Yorkers that their engagement terminated so soon; it could have easily run out the season.

could have easily run out the season.

Kellar, the Magician.—Changing men into women and women into men, materializing living human beings out of the air, projecting-young ladies from the stage to the remote corners of the theater, causing orange trees to grow from the seed to the mature tree laden with ripe fruit, growing natural roses by the hundred, all in plain sight of the audience, in full glare of electric lights and upon an open stage, without traps, screens, hangings or soverings of any sort, are some of the almost supernatural things Magician Kellar entertains his patrons with this season. His work is so far in advance of anything hitherte seen in the field of magic as to create a new epoch in that class of entertainment. A series of full stage illusions will find place on his program in this city when he comes to the Columbia Theater.

The Ice Palace.—Although the Christmas

Columbia Theater.

The Ice Palace.—Although the Christmas helidays may be unattended by the weather which brings in its wake the joys of sleighing and skating, there is no reason why every one who is at all fond of the good old sport of ice skating should not enjoy this healthful and invigorating exercise. Washington rarely does have enough ice furnished by nature to allow skating for more than a couple of days at the most, but at the Ice Palace at Convention Hall this pastime rusy be enjoyed from Novembut at the Ice Palace at Convention Hall this pastime rnay be enjoyed from November to April at any and at all times of the day and evening. There is every reason to believe that the attendance at the rink will be multiplied many times by the holiday season. Added to the general impetus given to such sport about this time, there will be an attraction at the rink during the most of the holidays which will prove the greatest drawing card that Manager Towers has ever provided for his patrons. This will be the great six-day race, in which the crack bicycle riders of the world will enter to try to gain new laurels and more prize money. The races will begin Monday, the 28th instant, and will continue all that week. The men who will engage in the meet are among the most noted riders in the world, and include all of those who raced at Madison Square in New York a short time ago.

Sacred Cencert.—The sacred concert to be

raced at Madison Square in New York a short time ago.

Sacred Cencert.—The sacred concert to be given at the Bijou Family Theater tomorrow night by Howson's Twentleth Century Band and Orchestra, assisted by the Ideals, promises to be one of the most entertaining affairs ever given here. The program has been prepared with great care, and presents many features tnat will be amusing without being out of the order of the day. Many of the best selections given by the orchestra during the week will be repeated, together with a dozen new selections. The performance has been in rehearsal all last week, and a smooth production is assured. The cencert includes a number of popular songs by Baby Johnson, whose work has won censiderable praise during the week; a monologue by M. B. Streeter, three new songs by Miss Earle and Mr. Streeter, and selections by the American Quartet. The orchestra, under the personal direction of Mr. Howson, will render "Lady Slavey," "Down the Mississippl," a medley of familiar airs, Offenbach's "Overture Orpheus," "Waltz Espana" and "Kansas Two-Step." A feature of the entertainment will be a clarionet solo by Mr. E. E. Seymour, whose playing has been declared by many critics to be far above the average. Popular prices will be maintained. The box office will be open all day, in order to accommodate those who wish to purchase seats in advance.

Special Wednesday Matinee Prices.—Special bargain prices will rule for the Wednesday matinee performance of "In Gay New York" at the Lafayette Square Opera House next week. The orchestra, parquette and mezzanine box seats will be 50 cents and balcoly reats 2 cents. All seats may be reserved at these prices, and the entire company will appear in the complete performance.

formance.

Mr. Fox's Readings.—A large and appreciative audience that was notable for the number of well-known society people it contained assembled at the Columbia Theater yesterday afternoon to hear Mr. John Fox, Jr., give readings from his own works. Although the audience was a large one a misunderstanding as to the hour set for the entertainment doubtless kept many more away. Mr. Fox was introduced by Mr. Thomas Nelson Page. Mr. Fox displayed a good deal of elocutionary talent in his readings, and began by describing the Kentucky mountaineers. He said that both the people and the country of that region were not so bad as the newspapers and certain lines of stories lead people to believe. The pride, hospitality and kindness to strangers in that part of the country, he said, are proverbial and should be ness to strangers in that part of the coun-try, he said, are proverbial and should be taken as the true indication of the condi-tions which exist there. Mr. Fox told many anecdotes to illustrate the good traits of these people and followed this talk with a monologue "Courtin" on Cutchin" which monologue "Courtin' on Cutchin," which was delightful. "The Kentuckians," a serial, which is to be published in Harper's Monthly next spring, was next given, the subject dealing with the scenes and characters of the blue grass region. Mr. Fox spoke in a clear strung toneard every constant. spoke in a clear, strong tone and every one of his readings as enjoyable to a super-lative degree. He was accorded a hearty reception and bursts of approval followed every one of his efforts.

Trinity Parish Hall.-"The Sweet Christmas Story; As Told in Poetry, Art and Song," will be given by Rev. A. G. Rogers, D. D., at Trinity Parish Hall, 3d street and Indiana avenue northwest, Monday even-ing next at 8 o'clock. Views of the famous paintings of the old masters relating to Holy Nativity will be given to illustrate art; music from the sacred classics will illustrate the song, while Dr. Rogers will explain each feature in his own interesting way. A sacred art loan exhibition will be open in the hall below, and light refreshments will be sold.

Lecture for a Relief Fund.-On Monday, December 21, Rev. A. G. Rogers, D.D., will lecture in the Church of Our Father, cor-ner of 13th and L streets, in aid of the relief fund of Burnside Woman's Relief Corps, No. 4. The lecture, "The Romance of Northern England," will be replete with scenes from the picturesque Cheviots to Fountains Abbey, and with recitals from Scott's "Marmion" will be eloquently told the story of northern England, with its instructive entertaining and armostic be structive, entertaining and romantic his-

HELD UP IN ALABAMA.

Southern Railway Train Boarded by Two Masked Men.

Train No. 35, west bound, on the Southern railway, which left Birmingham, Ala., Thursday afternoon at 4 o'clock, was stopped at 7 o'clock that night in Fayette county, sixty-five miles from there, by two masked men, who flagged the train on a bridge. One of the express safes was broken into. The robbers got very little

for their trouble.

General Superintendent Greene of the Southern railway received a dispatch from Division Superintendent A. J. Frazer stating that the hold-up occurred between Berry and Bankston, Ala. The loss of the express company amounted to \$504.50. The only damage to the train was caused by the smashing in of the door of the express car by the robbers. The dispatch further stated that bloodhounds had been secured, and build at once be put on the trail of the

AMUSEMENTS.

TRINITY PARISH HALL. TRINII I FRANKER AVE. N.W.,

3d and Indianh ave. N.W.,

MONDAY, DECEMBER 28, AT 8 P.M.,

THE SWEET CHESTMAS STORY,

In poetry, art and song.

Recital by 

ILLUSTRATED LECTURE-BY REV. A. G. ROGERS, D.D.,
"THE ROMANCE OF NORTHERN ENGLAND," For relief fund of Burnside Woman's Relief Corps, No. 4, at Church of Our Pather, corner 13th and L

sts., MONDAY, DECEMBER 21, 1896, 8 P.M. Sirgle admission, 35 cents. Reserved sents at Metzerott's, without extra charge. del19-21\* COURSE OF EIGHT LECTURES AT THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, 16th and O sts Heredity.

Dr. D. Kerfoot Shute. MONDAY, DEC. 21, AT 7:30 P.M. Course Tickets, \$1. Single Tickets, 25 cents CALIFORNIA, MEXICO, TEXAS, CHINA, JAPAN, Australia, Hawaiian islands, Central America. Special rates for freight us passage; choice of routes; private cars to rent; special tourist parties; free maps and pamphlets. R. J. SMITH. Agt., 49 80. 3d st., Philadelphia, my2-skw.lyr

MANO MUSIC FOR RECEPTIONS AT HOMES and other social occasions. Plano lessons, \$1 per hour.

AMUSEMENTS.

New National Theater.

**Xmas Attraction** Monday, December 21.

ONLY MATINEES XMAS DAY AND SATURDAY. FIRST PRESENTATION IN THIS CITY OF

HOYT'S SATIRE-SOCIETY IN POLITICS,

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Mr. CHARLES HOYT,

With a competent cast of Players, including

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Christmas Wook 3 MATINEES -- WEDNESDAY

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NEW

EQUIPMENT. WALTER JONES, DAVID WARFIELD. LUCY DALY. JEANETTE BAGEARD. REGULAR NIGHT PRICES.

CHRISTMAS MAT. PRICES: Orchestra, \$1.00. Parquet, 75c. Balcony, 50c

BARGAIN MATINEE WED'DAY. NEXT-THE GAY PARISIANS. AFAYETTE SQUARE OPERA HOUSE.

WEDNESDAY MATINEE.

IN GAY NEW YORK THE BRIGHTEST, BEST AND MOST, ENTER TAINING OF BURLESQUES. COMEDY-FARCE-OPERA-BALLET-VAUDE-VILLE-SPECTACLE ALL IN ONE.

A CHRISTMAS TREAT FOR CHILDREN.
A CHRISTMAS TREAT FOR EVERYBODY. SPECIAL WEDNESDAY MATINEE PRICES: 50c. RESERVED. ORCHESTRA, PARQUETTE,

BALCONY 25c. RESERVED. NO HIGHER.

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AMUSEMENTS.



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A new play by Alice E. Ives, descriptive of New

England life. MUST LAUGH. EVERYBODY

THE EXCITING RACE Between -E- BICYCLES AND RUNNING HORSES.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.

-S-

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DECEMBER 21. Special Christmas Matinee. Latest and Greatest of American Productions The Most Picturesque Dramatic Spectacle Upon the American Stage.

The Great Northwest Three Wonderful Trained Horses,

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Bilizzard.
The Wheat Farm.
The Wheat Farm.
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The entire production under the direction of Augustin Daly.

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EXTRA MATINEE CHRISTMAS DAY. EUGENIE

BLAIR, Assisted by EDWIN FERRY

The Flying Jordans ACADEMY-Prices, 25c., 50c., 75c. and \$1.00.

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> EUGENIE BLAIR "East Lynne."

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"A Contented Woman," with CAROLINE MISKEL-HOYT. Seats selling. PRINCETON UNIVERSITY

CLEE, BANJO MANDOLIN GLUB'S

CONCERT. National Rifles' Armory, Tuesday, Dec. 22, at 8:15.

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THE MIDNIGHT FLOOD.

Thursday, Friday and Saturday Matinee and Night,
"GRIT; OR, TRUE AS STEEL."

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Grand Mounted **Broadsword Contest** Between DUNCAN C. ROSS, Champion of the World,

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